Numb. 118

The TATLER.

By *Iſaac Bickerſtaff* Eſq;

Luſiſti ſatis, ediſti ſatis, atque bibiſti;
Tempus abire tibi. ——— Hor.

From *Saturday January* 7. to *Tueſday January* 10. 1709.

From my own Apartment, January 8.

I Thought to have given over my Proſecution of the Dead for this Seaſon, having by me many other Projects for the Reformation of Mankind; but I have received ſo many Complaints from ſuch different Hands, that I ſhall diſoblige Multitudes of my Correſpondents, if I do not take Notice of them. Some of the Deceas'd, who I thought had been laid quietly in their Graves, are ſuch Hobgoblins in publick Aſſemblies, that I muſt be forced to deal with them as *Evander* did with his Triple-lived Adverſary, who, according to *Virgil*, was forced to kill him thrice over before he could diſpatch him.

Ter Letho ſternendus erat. ——

I am likewiſe informed, That ſeveral Wives of my dead Men have, ſince the Deceaſe of their Husbands, been ſeen in many Publick Places without Mourning, or Regard to common Decency.

I am further adviſ'd, That ſeveral of the Defunct, contrary to the Woollen Act, preſume to dreſs themſelves in Lace, Embroidery, Silks, Muſlins, and other Ornaments, forbidden to Perſons in their Condition. Theſe, and other the like Informations, moving me thereunto, I muſt deſire, for Diſtinction-ſake, and to conclude this Subject for ever, That when any of theſe Poſthumous Perſons appear, or are ſpoken of, that their Wives may be called Widows; their Houſes, Sepulchres; their Chariots, Hearſes; and their Garments, Flannel: On which Condition, they ſhall be allowed all the Conveniencies that dead Men can in Reaſon deſire.

As I was writing this Morning on this Subject, I received the following Letter:

From the Banks of Styx.

Mr. *Bickerſtaff*,

'I muſt confeſs I treated you very ſcurrilouſly 'when you firſt ſent me hither; but you have 'diſpatched ſuch Multitudes after me to keep me 'in Countenance, that I am very well reconciled, 'both to you and my Condition. We live very 'lovingly together; for as Death makes us all 'equal, it makes us very much delight in 'one another's Company. Our Time paſſes a-'way much after the ſame Manner as it did 'when we were among you; Eating, Drinking, 'and Sleeping, are our chief Diverſions. Our '*Quid Nuncs* between whiles go to a Coffee-'houſe, where they have ſeveral warm Liquors made 'of the Waters of *Lethe*, with very good Poppy 'Tea. We that are the ſprightly Genius's of the 'Place, refreſh our ſelves frequently with a Bottle 'of Mum, and tell Stories till we fall aſleep. You 'would do well to ſend among us Mr. *Dodwell's* 'Book againſt the Immortality of the Soul, which 'would be of great Conſolation to our whole Fra-'ternity, who would be very glad to find that they 'are dead for good and all, and would in particu-'lar make me reſt for ever,

Yours,

John Partridge.

P.S. Sir *James* is juſt arrived here in good Health.

The Foregoing Letter was the more pleaſing to me, becauſe I perceive ſome little Symptoms in it of a Reſuſcitation; and having lately ſeen the Predictions of this Author, which are written in a true Proteſtant Spirit of Prophecy, and a particular Zeal againſt the *French* King, I have ſome Thoughts of ſending for him from the Banks of *Styx*, and reinſtating him in his own Houſe, at the Sign of the *Globe* in *Salisbury-Street*. For the Encouragement of him and others, I ſhall offer to their Conſideration a Letter which gives me an Account of the Revival of one of their Brethren.

SIR, *Dec.* 31.

'I Have peruſed your Tatler of this Day, and 'have wept over it with great Pleaſure; I wiſh 'you would be more frequent in your Family-'Pieces: For as I conſider you under the Notion 'of a great Deſigner, I think theſe are not your 'leaſt valuable Performances. I am glad to find 'you have given over your Face-painting for 'ſome Time, becauſe, I think, you have employ-'ed your ſelf more in Groteſque Figures, than in 'Beauties; for which Reaſon I would rather ſee 'you work upon Hiſtory-Pieces, than on ſingle 'Portraicts. Your ſeveral Draughts of Dead Men 'appear to me as Pictures of Still-Life, and 'have done great Good in the Place where I 'live. The Squire of a Neighbouring Village, 'who had been a long Time in the Number of 'Non-Entities, is entirely recovered by them. 'For theſe ſeveral Years paſt, there was not an Hare 'in the County that could be at reſt for him; and 'I think, the greateſt Exploit he ever boaſted of, 'was, That when he was High-Sheriff of the Coun-'ty, he hunted a Fox ſo far, that he could not fol-'low him any further by the Laws of the Land. 'All the Hours he ſpent at Home, were in ſwelling 'himſelf with *October*, and rehearſing the Won-'ders he did in the Field. Upon reading your Pa-'pers, he has ſold his Dogs, ſhook off his dead 'Companions, looked into his Eſtate, got the Mul-'tiplication-Table by Heart, paid his Tithes, and 'intends to take upon him the Office of Church-'warden next Year. I wiſh the ſame Succeſs with 'your other Patients, and am, *&c.*

Ditto January 9.

When I came Home this Evening, a very tight middle-aged Woman preſented to me the following Petition:

To

To the Worſhipful Iſaac Bickerſtaff *Eſq; Cenſor of* Great Britain.

The humble Petition of *Penelope Prim*, Widow.

Sheweth,

'That your Petitioner was bred a Clear-ſtarcher and Sempſtreſs, and for many Years worked to the *Exchange*, and to ſeveral Aldermens Wives, Lawyers-Clerks, and Merchants Prentices.

'That thro' the Scarcity cauſed by Regraters of Bread-Corn (of which Starch is made) and the Gentry's immoderate frequenting the Opera's, the Ladies, to ſave Charges, have their Heads waſhed at Home, and the Beaus put out their Linen to common Landreſſes; ſo that your Petitioner hath little or no Work at her Trade; for want of which, ſhe is reduced to ſuch Neceſſity, that ſhe and her Seven Fatherleſs Children muſt inevitably periſh, unleſs relieved by your Worſhip.

'That your Petitioner is informed, That in Contempt of your Judgment pronounced on *Tueſday* the Third Inſtant, againſt the new-faſhioned Petticoat, or old-faſhioned Fardingal, the Ladies deſign to go on in that Dreſs. And ſince it is preſumed your Worſhip will not ſuppreſs them by Force, your Petitioner humbly deſires you would order that Ruffs may be added to the Dreſs; and that ſhe may be heard by her Council, who has aſſured your Petitioner he hath ſuch cogent Reaſons to offer to your Court, that Ruffs and Fardingals are inſeparable; and that he queſtions not but two Thirds of the greateſt Beauties about Town will have Cambrick Collars on their Necks before the End of *Eaſter*-Term next.

'He further ſays, That the Deſign of our Great Grandmothers in this Petticoat, was to appear much bigger than the Life, for which Reaſon they had Falſe Shoulder-Blades like Wings, and the Ruff above-mentioned, to make their upper and lower Parts of their Bodies appear proportionable; whereas the Figure of a Woman in the preſent Dreſs bears (as he calls it) the Figure of a Cone; which (as he adviſes) is the ſame with that of an Extinguiſher, with a little Knob at the upper End, and widening downward, till it ends in a Baſis of a moſt Enormous Circumference.

'Your Petitioner therefore moſt humbly prays, That you would reſtore the Ruff to the Fardingal, which in their Nature ought to be as inſeparable as the Two *Hungarian* Twins.

And your Petitioner ſhall ever pray

I have examined into the Allegations of this Petition, and find, by ſeveral ancient Pictures of my own Predeceſſors, particularly that of Dame *Deborah Bickerſtaff*, my Great Grandmother, That the Ruff and Fardingal are made uſe of as abſolutely neceſſary to preſerve the Symmetry of the Figure; and Mrs. *Pyramid Bickerſtaff*, her ſecond Siſter, is recorded in our Family-Book, with ſome Obſervations to her Diſadvantage, as the firſt Female of our Houſe that diſcovered, to any beſides her Nurſe and her Husband, an Inch below her Chin or above her Inſtep. This convinces me of the Reaſonableneſs of Mrs. *Prim*'s Demand; and therefore I ſhall not allow the reviving of any one Part of that ancient Mode, except the Whole is complied with. Mrs. *Prim* is therefore hereby impowered to carry home Ruffs to ſuch as ſhe ſhall ſee in the above-mentioned Petticoats, and require Payment on Demand.

Mr. Bickerſtaff *has under Conſideration the Offer from the Corporation of* Colcheſter, *of* 400 *l.* per Ann. *to be paid Quarterly, provided that all his dead Perſons ſhall be obliged to wear the Bays of that Place.*

ERRATA *of the laſt* Tatler; *Col.* 1. *L.* 15. *for* taſtes, *read* reliſhes. *L.* 29. *for* Times, *read* Ages. *L.* 38. *for* the whole, *read* a whole. *L.* 47. *for* theſe, *read* this. *L.* 48. *for* Satisfaction, *read* Pleaſure. *Col.* 2. *L.* 19. *dele* own. *L.* 35. *for* Embraces, *read* Embrace. *Col.* 3. *L.* 18. *dele* the. *L.* 19. idem. *L.* 60. *for* ſcare, *read* ſcarce.

Advertiſements.

THeſe are to certifie, That we Catharine and Alice Nuſon, Siſters, in Cookley Pariſh near Halſworth in Suffolk, were born blind, having Cataracts on both our Eyes, to the great Grief and Affliction of our Parents; who being ſo diſcouraged by all that ſaw us, that they almoſt deſpaired of finding any Relief, the youngeſt of us being 23 Years of Age, and the other 28; till at length hearing of the great and wonderful Cures of this Nature, as well as of others incident to the Eyes, performed by Sir William Read, Her Majeſty's Oculiſt, in Durham-yard in the Strand, London, we apply'd our ſelves to him, which produced that good Effect, that he couched us both, and brought us to our perfect Sight. We therefore thought our ſelves obliged, for the Benefit of our Fellow Creatures, to make this publick; as well as in Juſtice to the ſaid Sir William Read. Which is here atteſted by us, Catharine and Alice Nuſon.

New Books from Denmark never publiſh'd before, to be ſold at R. Smith's Warehouſe at Exeter-Change in the Strand.

*** 1. J. Bircherodii Breviarium Equeſtre; ſeu, Tractatus de Ordine Eleganti, ... Fol. 2. Rituale Eccleſiarum Daniæ & Norvegiæ Latine jam primum verſa. In Octavo. 3. Torffæi Orcades; ſeu, Rerum Orcadenſium Hiſtoriæ, quarum Liber I. inſularum ſitum, Comitum, Procerum, Incolarumque, Origines, & Geſta II. Orcadum Epiſcopos eorumq; Succeſſores exhibet, &c. In Fol. 4. Viti Berigi Florus Danicus, ſeu Hiſtoria Regum Daniæ. In Fol. Stilo ingenioſiſſimo. 5. Toffæi Gronlandia antiqua quæ cœli mariſq; naturam, locorum & villarum ſitus, animalium terreſtrium aquatiliumq; genera, Gentis Originem, Statum Politicum & Eccleſiaſticum, &c. complectitur. In Octavo. 6. Torffæi Vinlandia antiqua itidem ex antiquitatibus Iſlandicis in lucem producta. In Octavo. 7. Torffæi Hiſtoria Ardſi Krakii a MS. Iſlandicis eruta & cum Saxone Grammatico collata. In Octavo. 8. Urſini Antiquitates Academico-Scholaſticæ Hæbræorum, ſive de Scholis & Academiis Judæorum, &c. in 4to.

This Day is publiſhed,

*** A Sermon preached to the Societies for Reformation of Manners, at St. Mary-le-Bow, on Monday Dec. 26. 1709. By Peter Newcome, M. A. Vicar of Hackney near London. Publiſhed at their Requeſt. Printed for John Wyat at the Roſe in St. Paul's Church-yard. Price 2 d.

This Day is publiſhed,

*** The Second Edition of the Golden Spy; or, A Political Journal of the Britiſh Night-Entertainments in Love and Politicks. Wherein are laid open the Secret Miraculous Power and Progreſs of GOLD, with the Clergy, Statelmen, Favourites, Courtiers, Ladies, and Gameſters, of the ſeveral Courts of Europe. Intermix'd with delightful Intrigues, Memoirs, Tales and Adventures; addreſs'd to the Author of A Tale of a Tub. Printed for J. Woodward in St. Chriſtopher's Church-yard near the Royal Exchange, and J. Morphew near Stationers-Hall.

THE Young Accomptant's Remembrancer, directing him to find the proper Debtors and Creditors in the moſt uſual Tranſactions and Occurrences of Trade. With the Method of ballancing Accounts, and tranſferring them into a new Leidger. The Fourth Edition. By Tho. Mercer, of the Bank. Sold by Mr John Lyons in Philpot-Lane near Fenchurch-ſtreet, who carefully teaches a Scheme of Merchants-Accompts, purpoſely compoſed by the ſaid Author to exemplify the Remembrancer.

*** The Peerage of England, or an Hiſtorical and Genealogical Account of the preſent Nobility. Containing, the Deſcent, Original, Creations, and moſt remarkable Actions of them, and their reſpective Anceſtors. Alſo the chief Titles of Honour and Preferment they now enjoy: With their Marriages and Iſſue, continu'd down to this preſent Year 1709, and the Paternal Coats of Arms of each Family in Blazon. Collected as well from our beſt Hiſtorians, publick Records, and other ſufficient Authorities, as from the perſonal Informations of moſt of the Nobility. To which is prefix'd, An Introduction of the preſent Royal Family of Great Britain, traced thro' its ſeveral Branches down to this Time, and terminating with the Proteſtant Succeſſion as ſettled by Act of Parliament. Printed for Abel Roper and Arthur Collins, at the Black-Boy in Fleet-ſtreet, Price 6 s. N. B. There's a ſmall Number printed on a large fine Paper. Price bound 10 s.

WE whoſe Names are hereunto ſubſcribed, do certify, That on the 6th Day of this Inſtant January, 1709. 30 Perſons, Men, Women, and Children, did acknowledge at the Croſs-Keys Tavern in Cornhil, That being all blind or diſtempered in their Eyes, they were reſtored to Sight, or received ſatisfactory Benefit, (of which Number one was born blind) by Mr. Roger Grant, Oculiſt. Atteſted by Geo. Ley, A. M. James Halſey Gent. Charles Williams Gent. Richard Marriott Gent. William Webb Gent. Abraham Harman, Surgeon. Any Perſon may be ſatisfied of the Truth of this Certificate at the Doctor's Lodgings in St. Chriſtopher's Court, Threadneedle ſtreet, or at Mr. Halſey's in Barbican.

THE Famous POWDER for the STONE, GRAVEL, and STRANGURY, that has perform'd ſo many remarkable Cures in thoſe Caſes, of which there are continued Inſtances. Certificates whereof, together with the Names and Places of Abode of many that have been reliev'd by it, too numerous to be inſerted here, are to be ſeen at Mr. Rogers's, Bookſeller in Fleet-ſtreet. There are likewiſe ſeveral large Stones that it has brought away from divers Perſons, to be ſeen at Mr. Aylmer's, Bookſeller in Cornhil. At both which Places only it is to be ſold, for 5 s. the Paper, which contains 3 Doſes, with Directions. The Perſon who prepares it, is to be ſpoken with every Tueſday and Thurſday, between 11 and 12, at Mr. Rogers's Shop above-mention'd.